

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A wire-stitching apparatus for producing wire-stitched print items, comprising:

a conveying arrangement for supplying folded, printed products in a straddling position;

a wire-stitching unit installed at an adjustable distance above the conveying arrangement and including a bending device, at least one wire-stitching aggregate, and a stitching carriage for moving the at least one wire-stitching aggregate back and forth along a path, wherein the at least one wire-stitching aggregate includes a bender for forming a wire segment into a staple with legs and a driver for pushing the staple legs through the printed products;

at least one wire feed for feeding wire for the staple to the at least one wire-stitching aggregate at a stitching wire length;

at least one adjustable wire-cutting device for adapting the stitching wire length of the staple to the thickness of the printed products;

a control unit for performing one of the following functions 1) measuring the thickness of the printed products positioned on the conveying arrangement upstream of the wire-

stitching unit, and 2) processing stored data related to the printed products; and

means for adjusting the wire-cutting device coupled to the control unit.

2. The wire-stitching apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for adjusting the wire-stitching unit, the wire-stitching unit adjusting means including at least one locally fixed means for driving the adjustment of the wire-stitching unit connected to the control unit.

3. The wire-stitching apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising means for adjusting the height of the conveying arrangement, the conveying arrangement adjusting means including controllable, locally fixed means for driving.

4. The wire-stitching apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the wire feed is adjustable according to the thickness of the printed products, and wherein the apparatus further comprises means for adjusting the wire feed that includes a drive shaft extending through the stitching carriage parallel to the path of the stitching carriage and at least one drive wheel displaceably mounted on a drive shaft.